

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This is a National Phase Filing Under 35 U.S.C. 371, of International Application No. PCT/AU05/000093, filed January 28, 2005, which claims the benefit of priority of Australian Provisional Patent Application Serial No. 2004900397, filed January 30, 2004, both of which are incorporated herein by reference.

Page 1, lines 5-7:

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to a nutrient delivery device, in particular a nutrient delivery device for the delivery of a nutrient in the form of a slow release ~~fertiliser~~ fertilizer. Preferably, the nutrient is in a prill form.

Page 1, lines 8-16:

Application of nutrient, such as ~~fertiliser~~ fertilizer, to plants in horticulture and agriculture is typically conducted in a manner wherein a large quantity of the nutrient source is applied at a single time or periodically. Single or periodic application of a nutrient source to an area of application may have the undesired effect wherein an unnecessary amount of nutrient is applied to that particular area. This may lead to excess consumption of the nutrient source, which is not only uneconomical, but which also may have the effect of leaching of surplus nutrient into the ground, possibly contaminating groundwater resources.

Page 2, lines 1-8:

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

In accordance with one aspect of the present invention there is provided a nutrient delivery device, characterised characterized by comprising:

Page 2, lines 17-23:

DESCRIPTION OF AN EMBODIMENT OF THE INVENTION

Referring to the Figures, there is shown a nutrient delivery device 10 comprising a water inlet 12 with a valve assembly 14 attached thereto. The water inlet 12 and valve assembly 14 are each in fluid communication with a nutrient receiving chamber, which in the present embodiment is a barrel portion 16. The barrel portion 16 houses a filter 18. A suitable nutrient supply, such as prill controlled slow release ~~fertiliser~~ fertilizer is deposited within the barrel portion 16 and about the filter 18.

Page 4, lines 14-21:

The nutrient supply is preferably provided in the form of a plurality of prills. Each prill consists of a suitable nutrient supply or ~~fertiliser~~ fertilizer, with a suitable coating thereabout. Nutrient is slowly released into water incoming into the nutrient delivery device 10 by the nature of the prill and by the flow of water from the water source into the barrel portion 16. The prills absorb water entering into the barrel portion 16 from the water supply, which cause the prills to swell into capsules of substantially liquefied nutrient. The nutrient from the prills are then released through the coating by osmosis and into the water incoming into the barrel portion 16.

Page 7, lines 19 through page 8, lines 1-2:

In use, the barrel portion 16 of the nutrient delivery device 10 is substantially filled with a suitable nutrient source, such as a prill controlled slow

release ~~fertiliser~~ fertilizer. The nutrient source is placed within the barrel portion 16 and externally of the filter 18. The socket 24 and barrel portion 16 with nutrient source and filter 18 therein is then sealed in manufacture to prevent refilling of the barrel portion 16 with any other substance. The socket 24 and barrel portion 16 may be sealed by any suitable means, such as by welding or riveting the aforementioned components together to produce a single-use unit.